danicara@stanford.edu
http://www.stanford.edu/~danicara

Department of Economics Stanford University 579 Jane Stanford Way Stanford, CA, 94305 (773-738-5912)

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Economics, Stanford University Expected Completion: June 2023

BA in Economics (Honors) and Mathematics (Honors), The University of Chicago, 2011-2015

DISSERTATION COMMITTEE

Prof. Adrien Auclert Economics Department, Stanford University (650) 723-2218 aauclert@stanford.edu

Hoover Institution (650) 723-2215 rehall@stanford.edu

Prof. Robert Hall

Prof. Patrick Kehoe Economics Department, Stanford University (612) 720-5008 pkehoe@stanford.edu Dr. Elena Pastorino Hoover Institution (650) 725-9935 epastori@stanford.edu

RESEARCH

Primary: Macroeconomics

Secondary: Monetary Economics and Macro Labor

Publications

<u>Macroeconomic Nowcasting and Forecasting with Big Data</u> (with B. Bok, D. Giannone, A. Sbordone, and A. Tambalotti)

Annual Review of Economics. Vol. 10:615-643, 2018.

Data, data, data... Economists know their importance well, especially when it comes to monitoring macroeconomic conditions - the basis for making informed economic and policy decisions. Handling large and complex data sets was a challenge that macroeconomists engaged in real-time analysis faced long before so-called big data became pervasive in other disciplines. We review how methods for tracking economic conditions using big data have evolved over time and explain how econometric techniques have advanced to mimic and automate best practices of forecasters on trading desks, at central banks, and in other market-monitoring roles. We present in detail the methodology underlying the New York Fed Staff Nowcast, which employs these innovative techniques to produce early estimates of GDP growth, synthesizing a wide range of macroeconomic data as they become available.

WORKING PAPERS

Labor Market Recoveries Across the Wealth Distribution (Job Market Paper)

This paper studies why in the aftermath of recessions low-wealth workers experience larger falls and slower recoveries in earnings than high-wealth workers. I show that differences in job-switching and job-losing rates play an important role in explaining these earnings dynamics. I build a macro model of the labor market that includes a novel ingredient, which I document and quantify empirically: when workers switch to new jobs they suffer a 9 percentage point increase in their job-loss probability over the first fifteen months at the new job. Through this model I conclude that differences in job-switching and job-losing by wealth, which the model can endogenously reproduce, explain 20 percent of the gap in earnings between low- and high-wealth workers following the Great Recession. Furthermore, the model is consistent with the sudden increase in job-switching that the US labor market experienced following the Pandemic recession, suggesting that generous government stimulus played a sizable role in the recovery.

Optimal Monetary Policy with Menu Costs is Nominal Wage Targeting (with B. Halperin)

We show analytically that ensuring stable nominal wage growth is optimal monetary policy in a multisector economy with menu costs. This nominal wage targeting contrasts with inflation targeting, the optimal policy prescribed by the textbook New Keynesian model in which firms are permitted to adjust their prices only randomly and exogenously. The intuition is that stabilizing nominal wages minimizes the number of firms which need to adjust their prices, and therefore minimizes the resources wasted on menu costs. We show that the analytical result that nominal wage targeting is superior to inflation targeting carries over in a rich quantitative model.

WORK IN PROGRESS

Heterogeneous Currency Union: MPCs and Tradable Shares (with R. Masolo)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2021	TA to Prof. Bocola, Econ 165 (International Finance).
2020	TA to Prof. Bhattacharya, Econ 165 (Economics of Health and Medical Care).
2019-20	TA to Scott McKeon, Econ 102A (Introduction to Statistical Methods).

RELEVANT POSITIONS

2020-22	Academic Visitor, Bank of England
2021	Research Assistant to Prof. Patrick Kehoe and Dr. Elena Pastorino, Stanford
2020	Ph.D. Intern, Bank of England
2018-20	Research Assistant to Prof. Adrien Auclert, Stanford
2015-17	Research Analyst, Macro and Monetary Division, NY Fed

SCHOLARSHIPS, HONORS & AWARDS

- 2022 E.S. Shaw and B.F. Haley Fellowship for Economics, Stanford University
- 2021 Dissertation Fellowship, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis
- 2021 Doctoral Grant, Washington Center for Equitable Growth
- 2015 David S. Hu Award, The University of Chicago
- 2015 Becker Friedman Institute Award for Academic Achievement, The University of Chicago

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Referee for Journal of Business & Economic Statistics, International Journal of Forecasting

OTHER WORK

"Opening the Toolbox: The Nowcasting Code on GitHub" with P. Adams, B. Bok, D. Giannone, E. Qian, A. Sbordone, C. Schneier, A. Tambalotti

"Just Released: Introducing the New York Fed Staff Nowcast" with G. Aarons, M. Cocci, D. Giannone, A. Sbordone, A. Tambalotti

EXTERNAL PRESENTATIONS

2021 St. Louis Fed, Dartmouth College, Bank of England

OTHER

Programming: Julia, Python, Matlab, Stata.

Languages: Italian (native) and English (native).

Citizenship: USA and Italy.

Last updated: August 2022